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SHOULD THE STATES MULTIPLY?

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

WHEN Sardar Patel toiled for the unification of the 108 princely states which were just small pockets scattered all over the country, the underlying principle for bringing them together under the administration of the Union of the Republic of India, was to ensure the integration of our various cultures and to consolidate the unification of the Nation. All the achievements of this man of iron will and his dreams of a united India are now sought to be nullified under the plea of smaller states for more effective administration.

THE plea for the fragmentation of the larger states of India into mini states portends dangers far greater to the security of the country than what came to pass immediately in the wake of the partitioning of British India into Bharat and Pakistan when Independence came in 1947.

It is all the more perplexing that the suggestion for the break-up should emerge from well-meaning people who have devoted a good part of their lives to the enrichment of the national aspiration of India at great personal sacrifice to themselves. The arguments favouring the sub-division of the sprawling states such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar can never carry conviction in the larger interest of the nation's goal towards a unified and prosperous India.

The very gains, if at all there are any, in the splitting of the bulky states into two or more units for more viable administrative conveniences can soon catapult into irrepairable setback from which it may be impossible to retrieve.

JP's LOGIC

How frail is the logic of Mr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, who thinks that the distance between the people and the rulers can be narrowed down by forming smaller states. He argues that the people would have easier access to the Chief Ministers and the Ministers in smaller states than in the bigger states and that the government officers would have more time at their disposal to study the problems of the people and make efforts to solve them.

Mr. Narayan wants Bihar to be divided into north and south pinpointing thus : "The culture, history and the customs of the people of north Bihar differ widely from that of the people in South Bihar. Then why should not the state be split into two parts ?"

How electrifying and instigative would this call sound to those politicians in other parts of the country who in the name of greater autonomy for their own states would lose no time in catching up with the idea of demanding for the bifurcation of the various states on the basis of differing cultural and historical backgrounds !

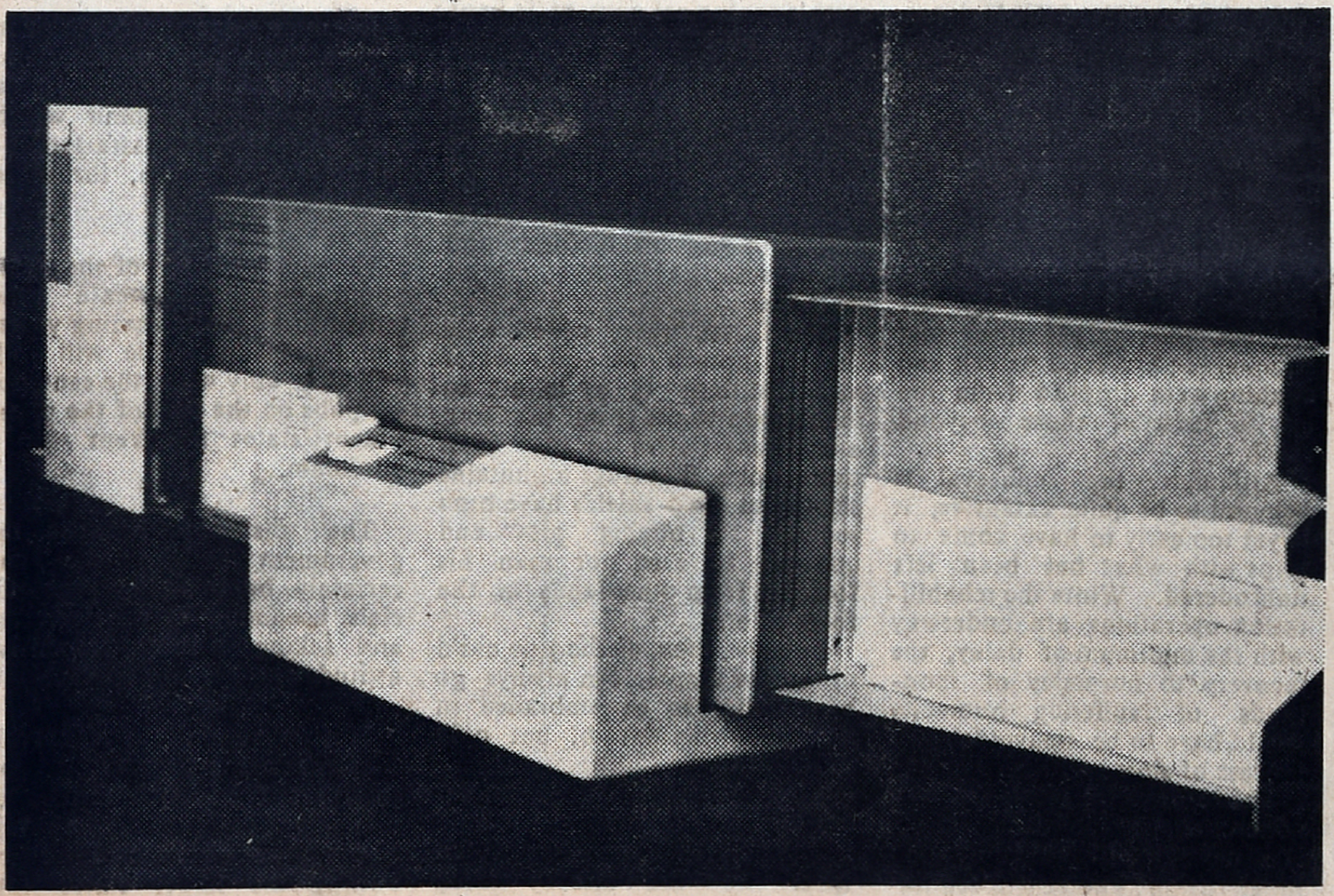
CHAIN REACTION

Echoing the views of Mr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, the Union Home Minister, Mr. Charan Singh, feels that Uttar Pradesh has become too unweildy for effective local administration and there is a case for the creation of smaller states.

Once the fragmentation work is set in motion, there is no stopping of the chain reaction that is sure to let loose. Splitting Bihar, for instance, would not see the end of the process in that state itself. For long there has been an agitation for carving a separate State of Jharkhand comprising the predominantly Adivasi districts of Chotanagpur and Santhal Parganas. So instead of just a north and south Bihar for administrative ends as suggested by JP, the fuse will be ignited for separate tribal units.

As for U. P., the demand will be to split it into any number

(Contd. on page 2)



TEST SCORER !

THIS 3-M Electronic Test Scorer capable of automatically making out on the answer sheet the score which a candidate has obtained on the basis of the answers given and also indicate his mistakes has been acquired by the Union Public Service Commission. It is likely to be used for selection of candidates where the recruitment is made through interview only. It takes less than a second to programme it. It will now be possible to inform the candidate as he comes out of the examination hall the marks scored by him and the result.

THUS SPAKE
THE MAHATMA

Non violence is the first article of my faith. It is also the last article of my creed.

ASOKA SCENTED BETEL NUT POWDER

Free India

SUNDAY Nov. 20, 1977

RESCUE OPERATIONS

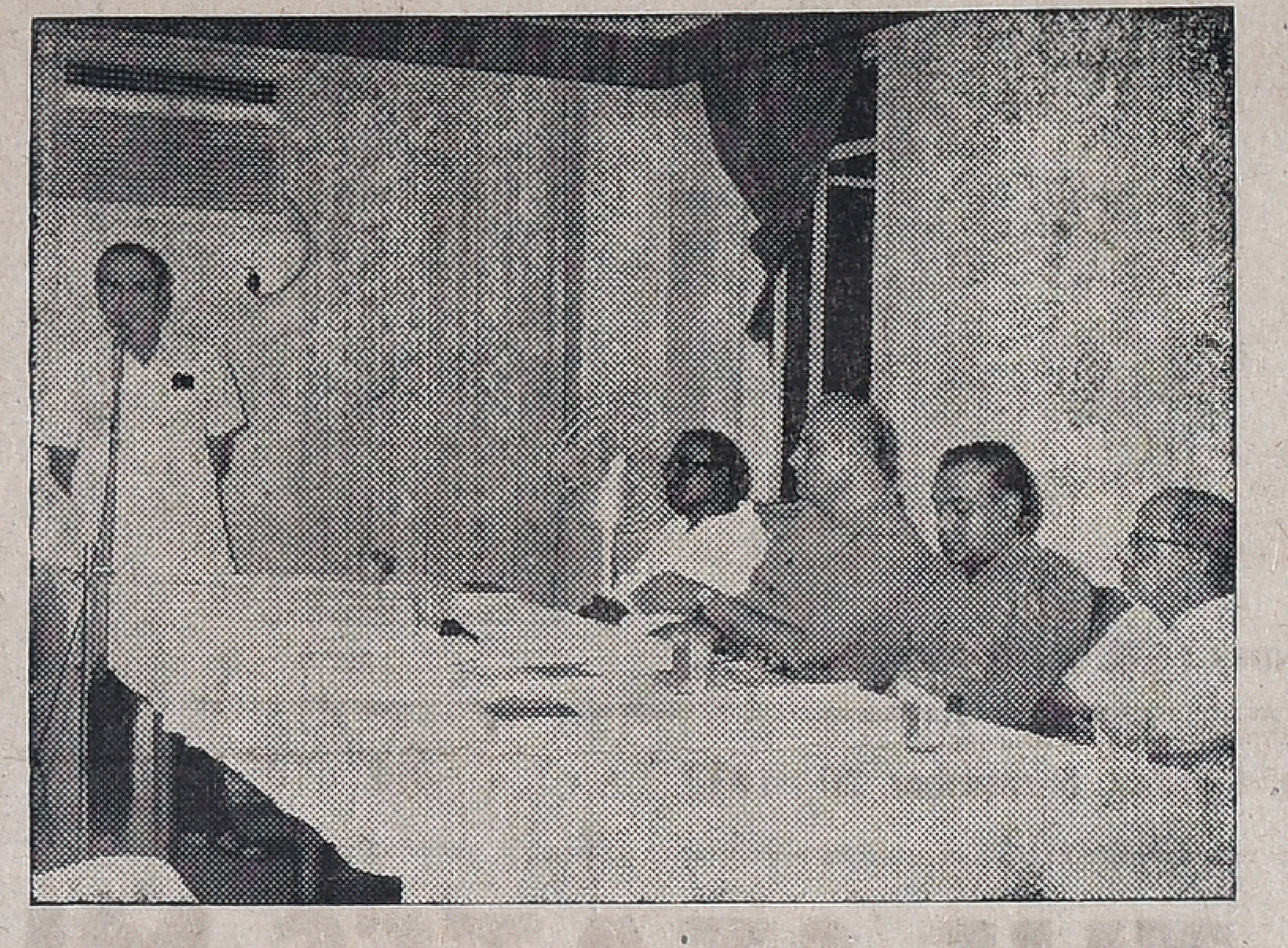
Praise alone will not suffice for swift and efficient manner in which the State Government and the Centre have geared themselves to respond to the call of the suffering in their greatest hour of peril and anguish.

The extent of damage and misery caused to thousands of rural and urban population in Tamil Nadu in the past few weeks on account of unprecedented floods arising from the recent cyclonic rains defies all description.

Food, clothing, medicines and volunteer services had to be rushed in several directions at lightning speed on a massive scale. In spite of the inadequacy in manpower and resources, the Tamil Nadu Government has been able to rally back admirably to meet the situation to the extent it is humanly possible.

Hardly had the preparations to contain the terrible havoc been begun when another warning was signalled off a far more severe cyclone overtaking Madras city and its neighbouring areas.

As a morale booster, the Union Government had deputed three Central Ministers to tour the affected areas and to apprise the situation. The Prime Minister's assurance to give all the help necessary to the State Government is an example of healthy Centre-State relationship in meeting problems of national interest without reservations whatever.



At a very colourful function held recently at New Woodlands Hotel, Madras, Mr. T.V. Vasudevan, Director of Rural Development, Government of Tamil Nadu, released "NEL SAGUPADI", a scientific book in Tamil on farm practices, written by Mr. S. S. Nagarajan Chief Agricultural Economist of TAFE. Seen in the picture are Mr. Nagarajan replying to felicitations and flanking him are: L. to R. Mr. Anandakrishna Chettiar of Siddhi Vinayagar Farm; Mr. D. P. Lalvani, General Marketing Manager, TAFE; Mr. A. Sivasailam, Chairman and Managing Director, TAFE; and Mr. T. V. Vasudevan.

OF MEN AND MATTERS

MAN IS HIS OWN ENEMY

THERE could not have been more convincing proof that man has invited misery on himself because of his own shortcomings than how accessible he made himself and his surroundings to the vagaries of nature and its furious onslaught, in the recent days.

The cyclonic winds accompanied by unprecedented rains, which lashed the entire coast of Tamil Nadu, wrought devastating havoc upon the lives, homes and belongings of thousands of poor and helpless folk throughout the State. The low-lying coastal belts comprising Rameswaram, Tirunelveli, Tiruchendur, Madurai, Salem, Dindigul, Madurai, Tiruchi, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, Pondicherry and even parts of South Arcot and Chingleput districts came in for the severest damage resulting in the loss of several human lives, heavy destruction to property and rendering so many families homeless.

Rescue operations had to be sought to bring to safety those unfortunate souls who were marooned with the help of Defence Service personnel and equipment; and food parcels and clothing were dropped from the air to such of those beyond reach.

Although the upheaval is believed to be quite extensive, it is yet too early to have come to grips with what has been left unhindered. While the rehabilitation operations are underway with the minimum of delay, the recovery to normalcy of thousands of suffering humanity would have to be unavoidably a process of slow grinding.

The lessons to be learnt and conclusions to be drawn from this monstrocity are only too bitter for one's detached realisation. Man's continued determination to persist against nature's benevolence is at the root of his own undoing.

In order that he may seek the maximum creature comforts for himself and his dependents, man tends to bargain with nature's set laws, thereby tilting the balance to his own disadvantage and inevitable ruin. The tampering with ecology has its limitations and can no longer bear the seige being perpetrated upon it by man's ingenuity.

If man seeks to live apart from nature, circumventing its bountifulness, he certainly does not possess the wherewithal to pay for it.

The cycling of the seasons is nature's way of ushering benefits to mankind and he can reap the richest rewards provided the earth's ecological content is kept intact. But, alas! this is not to be so. Man has dared to do away with the protective forests and beauteous mountains all around him so that he may seek his joy and material gains by putting in their place the concrete jungles to run his factories and the skyscrapers to serve as his mansions.

The forest trees, which were there to absorb the rain water and distribute it at leisure to man's own wants from the soil, are no longer alive to play their useful roles. The huge mountains serving as wind-shields have been reduced to mining pits and quarries to earn for man his fortunes from other lands in the form of ores.

In truth, man, as the true child of mother nature, can always go back to her to be embraced in her ever loving bosom, but only in humility.

Trifling with ecology must cease henceforth lest we should be put to harsher treatment than what we are already going through.

—DEEVEE.

From page 1

Should The States Multiply?

Elsewhere, in Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh people have been clamouring for the creation of Vidharbha and Telengana states.

Once the idea of separate entities based on differing culture, language and historical background is recognised as valid and justified the clamour would begin to apply the same concept to several other fields of nation building activity with all the delirious consequences of such a development.

POTENT EVIL

The boundary disputes that came to the fore following the reorganisation of the states on linguistic principles are yet to see acceptable solutions. But, on the other hand, in the quest of solutions, the country witnessed many violent and ugly clashes between the interested states.

The events of the past few years should serve as a lesson for the protagonists of division—so much misery and bitterness and loss of lives.

Instead of applying all their energies to the task of economic development, many of the politicians have been pressing their claims on sectarian grounds.

A very potent evil is that with so many immature political parties staking their claims inside and outside Parliament and pulling in different directions it will hardly be possible to shape the Central Government into a strong authority to dispense real benefit effectively and hold its own in a world which has tended to become increasingly complex.

Looming large in the horizon is the intricate development already taking place in the strategic State of Kashmir which in assuming wider extra-territorial powers of its own, threatens to be uncontainable.

The multiplication of the states would only complicate the Indian scene in the coming years. The federal principle will work smoothly only when the centrifugal pulls on the part of the constituent states are kept to a minimum.

The distance between the government and people can certainly be bridged by the officials becoming more dedicated and taking a more responsive attitude.

It is the administrative machinery that may need re-orientation to meet the requirements of managing competently a vast country like ours and not by cutting the larger states into smaller ones.

Towards Eradication Of Untouchability

OUR Constitution has prohibited untouchability. Article 17 says untouchability is abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. The enforcement of any disability arising out of untouchability shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

Notwithstanding this national commitment to the eradication of this social evil, the implementation of the Untouchability (Offences) Act of 1955 had left much to be desired. The Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes had pointed out that the punishments awarded under the Act were inadequate in comparison to the offences committed. To meet such criticism and to put more teeth in the law against untouchability, far-reaching changes were made in the 1955 Act and the amended Act came into force with effect from November 19, 1976, with a new name "The Protection of Civil Rights Act 1975."

SUMMARY TRIAL

The amended Act has considerably tightened up the provisions relating to offences of untouchability. Such offences are now non-compoundable and punishment for them has also been made more severe. In case where the punishment does not exceed three months, they can be tried summarily. Both fine and imprisonment will now be awarded for such offences. Direct or indirect preaching of untouchability or its justification on historical, philosophical, religious or traditional grounds has been made an offence. Privately-owned places of worship, along with lands and subsidiary shrines appurtenant to such privately-owned places of worship which are allowed by the owner to be used as places of public worship have been brought within the purview of the Act. Provision has been made for imposition of collective fines by the State Government whose inhabitants are concerned in or abetting the commission of untouchability offences. Persons convicted of these offences are debarred from contesting elections to the Central and State Legislatures.

An important provision of the Protection of Civil Rights Act is that public servants, who wilfully neglect the investigation of any offence punishable under this Act shall be deemed to have abetted an offence punishable under the Act.

The Act casts special responsibilities on the State Governments to ensure that the rights accruing from the abolition of untouchability are available to the persons subjected to any disability on account of untouchability. Specifically, the State Governments are to take special measures for the provision of legal aid; appointment of officers for exercising supervision over prosecution under the Act; setting up of committees at appropriate levels to assist the Government in formulating or implementing such measures; provision for periodic survey of the working of this Act; and identification of the areas where persons are under any disability arising out of untouchability and adopting of measures for the removal of disability.

A Lesson For All

A sugar-cane may be crooked, and yet its juice is not crooked. A bow may be curved, and yet the arrow is not curved. A river may have windings and yet the water has no windings. Chokha may be untouchable, but his heart is not untouchable.

While we are engaged in chanting the Name of God, we need have no cause for fear, anxiety.

—Choka, the Harijan Saint.

SPECIAL CELL

In accordance with these responsibilities, the Tamil Nadu Government has taken steps to tighten up the enforcement of the law against untouchability. A special cell has been set up with a Police Officer of the rank of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police to over-see the effective enforcement of the Protection of Civil Rights Act throughout the State. This cell has now been permanently placed under the control of the Director of Civil Defence.

The table below shows the number of cases registered by the Police and disposed of in Tamil Nadu from November 1976 to September 1977.

Proposals for the establishment of mobile police squads in all the 19 poilce districts of the State have been recommended to the Government of India and their concurrence is awaited.

In November 1976, the State Government also set up a State Level Committee for the protection of civil rights with prominent Harijans and non Harijans as members, to review the working of the Act and advise on measures to ensure proper implementation of the Act and generally advise and assist the State Government in formulating or implementing measures to eradicate the social evil of untouchability. This Committee is proposed to be reorganised and action regarding the setting up of special courts for trial of offences under the Act, periodic survey of the working of the Act and the identification of the areas where persons are under any disability arising out of untouchability is proposed to be taken in consultation with the reconstituted State Level Committee.

CAMPAIGNS

With a view to educating the public and focussing attention on the amended Act, a week-long publicity campaign against untouchability was organised in November 1976. During this campaign, the salient features of the Act were projected through the various publicity media. To intensify this campaign, the State Government is considering employing drama and cultural troupes and the production of a film.

A part of the measures undertaken by the State Government to fight untouchability is the instruction given to the Collectors and Superintendents of Police in the districts stressing the need to take care of the weaker sections of the community and to guard against the possibility of resistance to welfare programmes from vested interests and the oppression of Harijans and other weaker sections. They have also been asked not merely to keep the peace but to go further and ensure that confidence and a sense of security are created among the weaker sections.

Cast Off The Castes

Pride of caste has never made any man holy, says Tuka. The untouchables have crossed the ocean of life by God-devotion, and the Puranas sing their praise.

Gora, the potter; Rohidasa, the shoe-maker, Kabira, the Muslim; Sena, the barber; Kauhopatra, the concubine; Chokhamela, the outcast; Janabai, the servant-maid have all become unified with God by their devotion.

The Vedas and the Sastras have said that for the service of God, castes do not matter. Inquire into the various works, says Tuka, and you will find that unholy men become holy by God-devotion.

—Tukaram.

The State Government has also introduced a scheme to provide relief from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to the members of the families of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes becoming victims of atrocities committed by members of other communities.

Besides these measures, the Tamil Nadu Government had launched in May 1975 a revised scheme for the provision of legal aid. Under this legal assistance is given to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in ejectment and eviction cases. In cases of accidents, in service matters and in other lawful cases relating to special or economic rights individually or jointly including private complaints preferred under the Untouchability (Offences) Act of 1955 (now known as "Protection of Civil Rights Act").

The Prime Minister Shri Morarji Desai has said that the evil of untouchability should be rooted out in the next five years. To achieve this objective, the campaign against untouchability should be carried on relentlessly not only by promoting the welfare of the Harijans but also educating the non-Harijans in their duties and responsibilities towards the Harijans.

Month	No. of cases pending previously	No of cases registered by the Police during the month	Total No. of cases	No. of cases ended in conviction	No. of cases ended in acquittal.	Cases treated as referred (M.F.M.L.* etc.)	No. of cases pending disposal by the Court	No. of cases pending investigation by Police	Total pending cases	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Nov. '76	456	170	626	128	80	11	392	15	407	
Dec. '76	407	20[illegible]	609	29	53	3	495	29	524	
Jan. '77	524	165	689	24	42	1	564	58	622	
Feb. '77	622	133	7[illegible]5	19	20	14	640	62	702	
Mar. '77	702	71	773	6	23	19	682	43	725	
Apl. '77	725	140	86[illegible]	24	30	10	745	56	801	
May. '77	801	122	923	25	62	7	769	60	829	
June. '77	829	93	92[illegible]	18	68	12	760	64	824	
July '77	824	118	942	[illegible]0	86	9	747	70	817	
August '77	817	93	910	9	121	7	721	52	773	
Sept. '77	773	95	868	11	65	12	724	56	780	

* Mistake of Fact Mistake of Law

FUN AND LAUGHTER

PROOF !

When the case of Finkelstein vs. Margolies was called, it developed that Finkelstein wanted back the 300 dollars he claimed he had loaned Margolies. Further more, he had two witnesses who swore they saw him give Margolies the money.

Undaunted, Margolies jumped to his feet and yelled, "Your honour, for every crooked witness Finkelstein produced who saw him give me the money, I will produce three that saw me give it back two days later."

"Judge," Finkelstein yelled even louder, "just to show you what a liar Margolies is—I never lent him the money in the first place !"

x x x

HIS GROUSE

An old farmer was complaining bitterly to the minister of the terribly bad weather for the crops, when the latter reminded him that he had much to be graetful for, all the same.

"And remember," said the good man, "Providence cares for all. Even the birds of the air are fed each day."

"Yep," replied the farmer, darkly, "off my coin."

x x x

CONCLUSION

An editor tried hard to cheer a disconsolate author recently.

"What you should do," he counselled, "is climb out of your lonely shell, get married, take a nice penthouse in town, give parties, have children and dogs and things."

"If you don't mind," groaned the author. "I think I'll commit suicide."

TRY STILL

Tommy returned from school with a perplexed brow, 'What's the matter Sonny ?" asked his father.

"I can't get a certain sum right," returned the boy. "I wish you'd help me with it, dad."

His father shook his head. "No I can't my boy," he said, "it wouldn't be right."

"Don't suppose it would be wrong," Tommy replied, "but you might have a try."

x x x

HER OBJECTION

"She doesn't agree with my religious beliefs," said the lodger who had refused to quit.

"You must be tolerant in these days of democracy," the magistrate rebuked the landlady.

"I don't object to his beliefs but I do object to him wanting to sacrifice a black bull to Jupiter on my new carpet,.' retorted the landlady.

x x x

FOOLED !

Featherstonelaugh and Smythe-Browne-Smythe, two big game hunters were arguing in their tent about prowess with the rifle.

"I'll bet you ten pounds I can go right now and shoot a lion," said Smythe-Browne-Smythe.

"Done," said Featherstonelaugh.

Ten minutes later a lion poked its head through the tent flap. "Do you know a fellow named Smythe-Browne-Smythe ?"

"Yes," quavered Featherstonelaugh.

"He owes you ten pounds," said the lion.

NOT FOR HER !

It was the first variety performance an elderly woman had ever seen, and she was particularly excited over the feats of the illusionist. But when he covered a newspaper with a heavy flannel cloth and read the print through it she grew a little nervous. He then doubled the cloth and again read the letters accurately.

This was more than she could stand, and, rising in her seat, she said: "I'm goin' home. This ain't no place for a lady in a thin calico dress !"

x x x

WRONG PERSON

"Doctor," she said loudly, bouncing into the room, "I want you to say frankly what's wrong with me."

He surveyed her from head to foot. "Madam," he said at length, "I've just three things to tell you."

"First your weight wants reducing by nearly fifty pounds."

"Second, your beauty would be improved if you used about one tenth as much rouge and lipstick.

"And third, I'm an artist—the doctor lives on the next floor.',

x x x

HOW ?

Class one was having a lesson on birds.

After some discussion the fact was established that birds eat fruit.

One little girl, however, was unconvinced.

"But teacher," she asked, raising her hand, "how can the birds open the cans ?"

x x x

QUEUEING UP

Annoyed on account of the non-delivery of some goods he had ordered, a dealer wired to a firm of manufacturers: "Cancel order immediately".

He received the reply: "Regret cannot cancel immediately. You must take your turn".

ANGELIC

A man, usually extremely critical, one day made a point of addressing his wife as 'an angle."

She was pleased but puzzled over it all day and in the evening inquired as to the unexpected honour.

"Well," retorted the caustic husband, "for one thing you are always flitting about; for another, you are forever harping on things."

x x x

COLOURED

"Sorry, but your story is too highly coloured," said the editor, handing back a massive manuscript.

"Why, how do you mean ?" asked the rejected author.

"In the first five pages," explained the editor, "you have the father turn purple with rage, the rival turn green with jealousy, the hero go white with anger, and the maiden turn red with blushes, and the coachman turn blue with cold."

x x x

ASSURANCE

A famous man was the dinner guest of an over-solicitous hostess who kept insisting to the point of annoyance that he had no appetite, that he was eating scarcely anything, etc.

Wearied atlast by this persistent chatter, the man spoke up impressively.

"Madam allow me to assure you that though I sometimes eat more than at other times, I never eat less."

x x x

SAFETY

"What are you doing there ?" asked a policeman of a woman who had stopped her car near a busy street corner.

"Parking my car," she replied. "I thought this would be a good place. The sign here reads. 'Safety Zone'."

No Rush

Nearly 200 years after first started, the so-called Inferno Section of the French National Library, whose erotica collection had been available only to a select coterie of literary scholars, has been opened to the public. But there was no rush. Wholesale porn has so greatly depreciated the "forbidden fruit" that nobody showed interest.

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Far and Near

South African Headache

Johannesburg cab-driver Susanna Meyer, who takes "whites only", was placed in a very embarrassing position recently, when, taking a tanned French lady tourist for a "coloured girl", she asked her for her passport. The indignant lady hired another taxi. "I have not got light-meters in my eyes", Susanna Meyer complained. Though she believes in apartheid and does not question the race laws, she demanded she be allowed to carry people of all races in her taxi. Her 'whites only" shingle was a business-losing proposition.

The Drink Question

William Hathaway, Chairman of the U.S. Senate subcommittee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse lambasted results of a Federally-financed medical survey recently. "Statistics show alcoholism to be our third most serious public health problem. It is remarkable to see medical researchers, particularly reseachers paid with Federal funds, in effect, urging people to drink", he said criticizing the survey which claimed that drinking alcoholic beverages might protect against heart disease. Did brewers and distillers contribute to financing the survey ?.

Change Of Heart ?

That pillar of racism, South Carolina's Senator Strom Thurmond stated time and again that no legislation could break down segregation in the South of the U.S.A. However, recently the 74-year-old Senator personally escorted his six-year-old daughter to her first-grade classroom at a desegregated public school. A change of heart ? Or the coming Senate election prospects ? Evidently even in the South rabid racism no longer reaps the previous political dividends.

A Slight Difference

The number of office clerks disgruntled with their jobs has reached a 55-year record high, a recent U.S. public opinion poll has revealed. As for managers, the poll has shown that 91 per cent of them are quite happy with their jobs.

Jaipur: The Pink City

By M.L. GOYAL, IAS, Director of Tourism, Rajasthan

KIPLING described Jaipur as "a city of puzzle ever". Indeed, since its very inception, the city has attracted and puzzled visitors, Indian as well as foreign, who have been enthralled by its architectural symmetry and beauty. It presents a sight of unbeleivable beauty, in its geometry, its colour, its bazaars, its monuments and its culture and pageantry.

WHY PINK?

The pink city, as we see it today, was not pink at birth, but according to the contemporary travel accounts, was white like most other Indian cities. It was Sawai Ram Singh who gave the city the pink colour, after having tried various colours on different streets. There is no universally accepted theory why only PINK was chosen. According to some, it represents the colour of the rising sun. The ruling clan claims descent from the sun and this may have prompted the ruler to adopt this colour. There are some others who hold that the colour symbolizes Rajput bravery, while a third theory maintains that it was selected on account of the sheer visual appeal. What ever may have been the reason, JAIPUR became famous as the PINK CITY after that and it has been famous ever since and has attracted tourists from the world over.

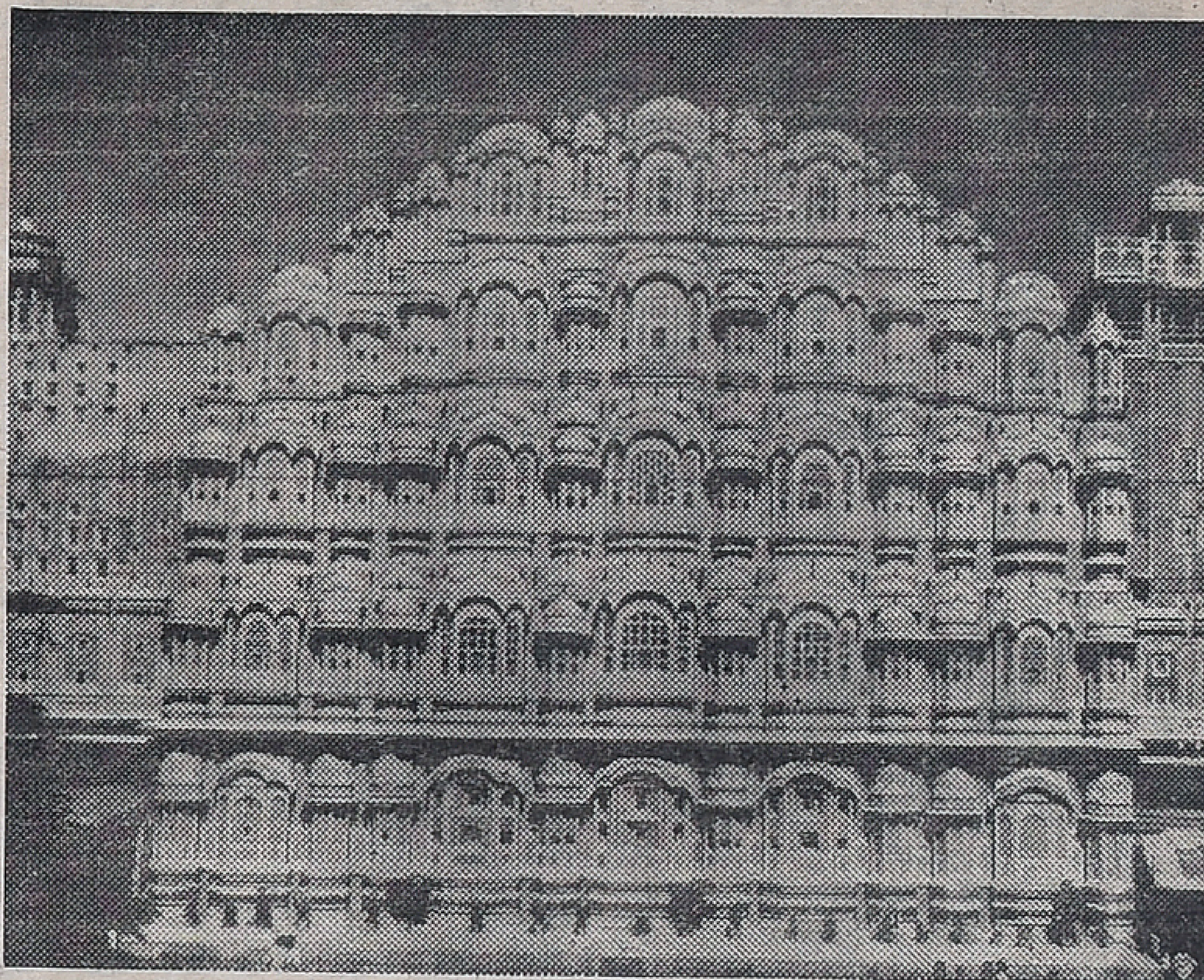
THE ARCHITECT

Created by an astronomer prince, the city stands as a tribute to the science of Indian Town Planning at a time when most countries were ignorant of the principles of town planning. The ruler's colleague and adviser in the founding of the city was Vidya Dhar, a Bengali Brahmn, who was raised by Jai Singh to the position of a minister in recognition of his services. There is an interesting story of how his instinct of town planning came to the Maharaja's notice. During one of his inspection tours of a palace, the Maharaja asked for a plan for access to the roof but his senior officers were unable to work it out for him. Young Vidya Dhar offered to do this work and was given five seers of wax to prepare a model. The model of a twisting staircase, which Vidya Dhar presented to Jai Singh, highly impressed the ruler. Jai Singh made arrangements for Vidya Dhar's formal education and when he decided to build a new city, it was natural that Vidya Dhar became the principal adviser.

TIMELESS CONCEPT

A number of modern architects have studied Jaipur's architecture and planning for higher studies. One of the architects hold that although the city was designed 250 years ago, the concept seems to be timeless. Technically speaking, it was one of the most well-designed mega structures, a planning theory propagated recently by the most ambitious planners and architects of Japan and U. S. A.

The town was planned on the ancient principles of SHILPA-SHASTRA. The urban form of the city was controlled by adopting a modular system of construction and strict architectural elevation control. Indeed, according to architects, Jaipur City is a total monument, and a living tribute to the genius of Indian Town Planning and architecture.



A view of Hawa Mahal in Jaipur.

TRAVEL ACCOUNTS

Tieffenthalar who came to Jaipur in Jai Singh's time writes, "the view of Jaipur city from the hill behind it is ravishing. This city, while it is new, is assuredly the most beautiful among the ancient cities of India."

In 1820, a British military visitor remarked, "I am disposed to think that in point of neatness and beauty, the main street of Jaipur would scarcely be surpassed by more than half a dozen streets in England."

Bishop Hober who passed through Jaipur in 1824 says," the fortifications of the city are so like those of Kremlin that I could almost have fancied myself at Moscow".

In the sixties, an American journalist had this to say, "what Jaipur convinces you of is that miracles are still woven into our lives. The feeling is confirmed when you visit the cluster of palaces on the hills at Amber, and see the mirror-bedecked rooms of the Maharajah's and their favourite wives".

Since its very inception, Jaipur encouraged various performing arts and other fine arts. The cenotaphs at Gaitore are an eloquent testimony not only to the height reached by the sculptors but to the various other forms of art practiced and patronised at Jaipur.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

During the regime of Swami Pratap Singh many reputed artistes from different parts of the country and from various fields of art migrated to Jaipur. A Mahama (department) called GUNIJAN KHANA, was established to assist the artistes. Gunijan Khana was, in fact, a package facility of sorts to the community of artistes. It provided venues for performances like the Hara Bengle (in the City Palace), Raj Rajeshwari's, Hanumanji's and Govindji's temples. It effected allotment of jagirs (land) to deserving artistes.

Exponents of Kathak dance and Dhrupad-Dhamal (vocal singing) were regarded as top artistes under Gunijan Khana.

Even at the time of the founding of the city, Jai Singh invited artistes from various other parts of the country and encouraged them to settle down in his city and offered them various concessions. The result has been that Jaipur very soon became famous for a variety of handicrafts, like enamelled jewellery, brass work, stone-cutting and polishing etc. Today the arts and crafts of Jaipur are world famous and it is considered as the leading jewel market all the world over.

A Kathak Dancer in action.

COLOURFUL FESTIVALS

In the days of Sawai Jai Singh the ruler himself participated very actively in all the fairs and festivals. The Gangor and Teej festivals, which even to day are considered the most colourful festivals of the city, drew large enthusiastic crowds and the ruler personally graced the occasions.

In spite of its being a so-called Desert City, Jaipur has some of the country's loveliest gardens. Among them are the Sisodia Rani Ka Bagh and Vidya Dhar Ka Bagh. There are also a number of lakes in and around the city—strangely, one of them in the midst of the city.

The 250th Anniversary of Jaipur, the PINK CITY and capital of Rajasthan, is being celebrated from Nov. 18 to Dec. 3, 1977.

JAIPUR offers some-sort of an attraction for everybody whatever be the age, sex or interests. It has rich heritage of art and culture ; it has Forts and Palaces ; it has lakes and mountains ; it has colourful fairs and festivals ; exquisite handicrafts and means of recreation and entertainment. JAIPUR can also be a convenient spring-board for further journeys into the colourful state of Rajasthan.

For The Week 20th November To 26th November 1977

MESHA (ARIES)
Aswini Bharani
Krittika 1/4

THE whole week will be progressive. You should try to develop new contacts. Financial position will be satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Family members will be cooperative. Health requires attention. Avoid friction with associates. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days : 24th & 25th

VRISHABA (TAURUS)
Krittika 3/4 Rohini
Mrigashirsha 1/2

MIXED results are indicated this week. You should wait for some more time to implement your programme. Financial position will improve. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. But you should devote more attention to official matters. Avoid friction with superiors. Change of place is indicated for some. Health requires attention. Favourable days : 20th & 21st

SIMHA (LEO)
Maka Purva Palguni
Uttara Palguni 1/4

THIS week indicates mixed results. You will be able to solve some of the problems by the end of this week. But you should wait for some more time to implement your development plans. Fiance will be fairly satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments. Short journeys are indicated. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid complications later. Favourable days : 21st & 22nd

KANYA (VIRGO)
Uttara Palguni 3/4 Hastha
Chitra 1/2

MOST of the week shows favourable trend. You will be able to finalise some of the long pending issues. You can expect favourable changes in your office. Finance is fairly satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Property matters should be handled properly to avoid complications. You may have to undertake a journey shortly. Favourable days : 24th & 25th.

Muscovite's Diary
Ivan Ivanov

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS OF A GREAT REVOLUTION

THE traditional military parade and the demonstration of working people in Moscow were colourful events on 7th November marking the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution.

The Parade began. Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, USSR Defence Minister and Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, rode on in an open car from the Kremlin's Spassky Gate. After receiving the report of the Parade's Commander, Colonel General Vladimir Govorov, the Minister reviewed the troops and congratulated them on the holiday. In reply came a thunderous "hurr". The Minister mounted the Mausoleum and made a speech.

After the Parade the demonstration of working people began. The Red Square was filled with standard-bearers.

Demonstrators lay flowers at the Lenin Mausoleum.

* * *

CELEBRATION MEETING

A CELEBRATION meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation was held in the Kremlin on 2nd November on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Speaking at the meeting Leonid Brezhnev said that a developed socialist society—the result of a people's history-making effort—has been built, exists and is being improved in the USSR.

Leonid Brezhnev said that changes for the better are most evident in Europe, where good-neighbourly relations, mutual understanding, and peoples' interest and respect for one another are growing.

If the main task—the prevention of another world war and the ensuring of lasting peace—is solved, new visitas will open before people throughout the world.

x x x

GREETINGS TO INDIA

DURING the celebrations L.I. Brezhnev has sent greetings to the National Celebrations Committee of the 60th Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and to the participants in the jubilee meetings of the representatives of the Indian public devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist revolution.

MITHUNA (GEMINI)
Mrigashirsha 1/2 Arudra
Punarvasu 3/4

MOST of the week indicate favourable trend. You should try to make best use of this opportunity to improve your position. You will be able to make important changes in your business set up. Financial position will improve. Investment made in real estate will yield good results. Health will be well maintained. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days : 25th & 26th

KATAKA (CANCER)
Punarvasu 1/4 Pushya
Ashlesha

THIS week starts with emphasis on monetary matters. You will be able to find new source of income. Speculative gains are also indicated. No major changes are seen in office. You should wait for some more time to implement your development programme. Family atmosphere will be pleasant. Matters relating to children could be finalised favourably. Favourable days ; 22nd & 23rd

THULA (LIBRA)
Chitra 1/2 Swathi
Visakha 3/4

THIS week shows favourable trends. You should utilise this opportunity to improve your position. Promotional possibilities are bright. Financial position will be satisfactory. Property matters could be finalised. Family members will be cooperative. Progress made by youngsters will give much pleasure. Health will be well maintained. Favourable days : 25th & 26th.

VRISCHIKA (SCORPIO)
Vishakha 1/4 Anuradha
Jyeshtha

THIS week shows mixed results. You should wait for some time to implement your plans. Minor changes are indicated in your office. Financial position will improve. Speculative gains are also indicated. Family atmosphere will be pleasant. Matters relating to be finalised. Short journeys are indicated. Favourable days : 22nd & 23rd.

DHANUS (SAGITTARIUS)
Mula Purva Ashadha
Uttara Ashadha 1/4

MOST of the week will be favourable. You will be able to finalise some of the important matters. Promotional possibilities a e bright. But avoid friction with associates. Family members will be cooperative. Property matters could be finalised. Short journeys are indicated. Financial position will improve. Minor speculative gains are also indicated. Favourable days :21st & 22nd.

MAKARA (CAPRICORNUS)
Uttara Ashadha 3/4
Shravana Dhanistha 1/2

THIS week will be progressive. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. Official atmosphere will be encouraging. You will get the necessary cooperation from your superiors to implement your plans. Financial position will be satisfactory. But avoid speculative investments for some more time. Avoid long distance journeys unless necessary. Favourable days ; 20th & 21st.

KUMBHA (AQUARIUS)
Dhanishta 1/2 Sathabhishag
Purva Badrapada 3/4

The first part of the week will be favourable. You should try to complete all important works during the first half of the week. No major changes in office. But avoid friction with associates. Partnership matters require attention. Financial position will improve. Family members will be cooperative. Property matters should be handled properly. Favourable days : 24th & 25th.

MEENA (PISCES)
Purva Badrapada 1/4
Uttara Badrapada Revati

MOST of the week shows favourable trend. You will be able to solve some of the long pending problems. Official atmosphere will be normal. You can also expect encouragement from your superiors. Finance will be satisfactory. Try to develop new source of income. Family members will be cooperative. Children's affairs could be finalised. Health requires attention. Favourable days ; 23rd & 24th.

RACE REVIEW:

A Classic Colt Ridden With Indifference

By SNAPPER

IT was a pathetic experience for astute racegoers to witness the manner in which jockey Sinclair Marshall chose to steer his mount, Major Role, on Deepavali Day at Guindy in the Ootacamund Cup, a distance of 1,600 metres, for horses in Class 11. This sturdy and good-looking three-year-old classic contender, rightly installed as the public favourite in that particular event among less merited horses, could have been returned a clear winner of the race but for the listless riding by the jockey.

This does not however detract the potentiality of the much improved Century Princess who claimed the Cup after being in the lead from the word go. She had earlier won a middle distance race at Hyderabad and having retained that form, gave a creditable account of herself in her first appearance at Guindy this season which has certainly enchanced the spirit of the new young trainer, Mohan, who is making his debut at Guindy with a moderate string of horses.

Coming back to the race in question, one must firmly conclude that the failure of Major Role to overtake Century Princess at the crucial stage of the race is to be placed squarely not on the horse, but on the rider. Not even when Marshall allowed the second favourite, Elysium, to take the first run between 800 metres and 600 metres, could he be faulted so much as to his unwillingness to make the final challenge in the straight.

Major Role's half-a-length defeat at the hands of Century Princess had better be ignored and he should be presisted with in all his future engagements including the classic events.

In the 2,000-metre Independence Cup, an event for Class A horses, 4-year-olds and over, won by Supreme Power, jockey Newman's attempts to win on True Verdict, by adopting a start-to-finish strategy was a costly mistake on his part because the more experienced jockey Karan Singh on Supreme Power was already tailing him at close quarters and could easily see through the game. True Verdict will be better proposition when next saddled and placed in the hands of a mature rider.

Smart Guy who won the 1600m Deepavali Plate, proved to be a class above the rest and he is sure to be heard of more as the season advances. Goya who came with a rattling run to place second after having trailed the field should be followed when fitted with those of similar age.

First jockey in J. Tyrrell's stable, Sexton rode a good race on Trelawne by getting his mount to the front from the early part of the race itself. The four-year-old's facile victory was gained in the company of equally well-placed horses like The Hermit who closed in at the finishing stage and the young and promising Prediction who was an early leader and was content to take the fourth place. Prediction is destined to go far.

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Unsolved Jackpots and Treble Pool Events

During the inter-venue betting on Bangalore races at Guindy, the ten-rupee totalisator win and place will be in operation at the first enclosure. Whenever a horse is withdrawn either in the jackpot or treble, substitution of tickets nominating that horse will be on the win tote favourite at Madras. When there is a carryover, the pool will be added on to the next day's meeting be it Madras races, or the intervenue betting races at Bangalore.

HORSES TO FOLLOW AT GUINDY

Punters are advised to follow the following horses at Guindy :—

Amaravathi, Bharat Rathna, Bright Fair, Cosmic Fury, Crown Court, Dauntless, Divine Seer, Emergency, Eve, Golden Pastures, Golden Streak, Great Seer, Little Emperor, Little Terror, Lucky Wish, Major Role, Mica Blue, Mica Gift, Night Wind, Noble Heart, Not to Worry, Padma Shri, Red Alligator, Sombrero, Shree Chendi, Star of Stars, Stembacco, Sunspray, The Brigand, The Director, Trevi, Urvashi and Vladimir.

Let Me Out

After having tied up and robbed Margaret Hamilton at her home in Bailliston, near Glasgow, the bandit was unable to get out of the house. He asked his victim to help. She did, with the result that he is now facing trial.

Bogus Diplomats

Transkei the "puppet pseudo-state" set up by the South African racialists, is practically isolated internationally. This has given Munich businessman Ernst Wienold an idea. Although the Federal Republic of Germany does not recognize Transkei, he offered to represent the interests of this "state." The Transkei rulers were only too happy to avail themselves of his services and asked him to promote contacts also with Austria and Switzerland. No sooner had Wienold got down to business than a competitor appeared in the person of Frank Sprenger, owner of a factory in Hagen, who also claims to be representing the interests of Transkei. There are few who doubt that these two "diplomats" are as bogus as the "state" they represent.

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Chickenfeed

American film star Elizabeth Taylor is to receive a record fee for a television commercial. General Motors whose cars she was touting has promised a $750,000 fee plus cars and farm equipment for her country villa. Evidently compared to the profits the film star's ravishing smile promises, her fee it mere chickenfeed.

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On Company Time

When the head of a company of a company in the French town of Laon whom Le Figaro identified as Mr. D. came home unexpectedly in the middle of the day to find his wife in a compromising situation with an employee, he immediately sacked the employee, whom the newspaper identified as Robert C. The latter took the case to an arbitration board on the grounds that he had not been given notice. The board ruled that Mr. D. Pay a 4000-franc fine and remit the "plaintiff" severance pay. However, the appeals court ruled that the boss had every right to dismiss Robert C. without notice, as he had found him at home on company time.

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Profit At A Price

Though Britain's Post Office chalked up a record $ 743 million deficit in 1975, AP reports, this fiscal year, 1976-77, it showed a $ 500 million profit. How come ? Mail is no longer collected on Sundays or in the evenings, while post offices are closed Saturday afternoons, on Sundays and holidays. Service between London and Paris was better before the French Revolution, Lord Boyd-Carpenter declared, adding that today mail between the two capitals takes up to thirteen days. Which means the Post Office's profit are the users' loss.

Anything For Love

Les Winn of the little American town of Toppenish, who had 124 jumps in his log. agreed to his bride's request that he parachute into their wedding. The 125th jump almost became his last : when he jumped from the plane, he found that his main parachute would not open. Fortunately, the reserve one did. He drifted off course, became snarled in a tree and knocked a friend unconscious when he and the branch holding him crashed to the ground. The wedding was solemnized as soon as the guest revived.

Prince Of Swindlers

A gentleman proclaiming himself "agent for eight Saudi princes" appeared one day at the London branch of the French Societe Generale and produced promissory notes worth $ 375 million. Its officials decided to check with the police. Their new Arab customer was found to be acting for a gang of swindlers. The promissory notes had been forged for a sizable fee by two employees of the Societe Generale's Toulouse branch.

Some Consolation

Though Liverpool's underground railway system cost $ 40 million to build, the superannuated locomotives employed keep breaking down, as a result of which trains are delayed or get stuck in the tunnels. However, the Passenger Transport Executive's director believes that the passengers should be satisfied with the face that at least seven out of ten trains were on time.

Anti-Jam Remedy

Town fathers of the Nigerian capital of Lagos have worked out an original scheme for dealing with traffic jams. Owners can take out their cars only every other day, depending on whether the first figure of the licence plate is even or odd. Exceptions are made only for taxis, and diplomatic corps, police and government cars. Rule-breakers have their ignition keys taken away from them for a specified period.

The minutes of your life are more important than the years. If you do not fill these minutes with thoughts of God, the years will slip by, and when you need Him most, you may not be able to feel His presence. But if you fill the minutes of your life with actively striving for God, you will find the years automatically enveloped in the consciousness of the Divine Being.

—Paramahansa Yogananda

FILM REVIEWS

Annan Oru Kovil

CAPTIVATING photography, exquisite settings and good acting are the features of Sivaji Productions' ANNAN ORU KOVIL in colour.

Dr Ramesh gets involved in the murder of his friend Bhaskar when he rushes to save his dear sister Lakshmi from the clutches of the villain and goes underground. While on his run, he meets his lady love Janaki and marries her under a pressing circumstance. He is later arrested and produced in the court and the case is set in motion. What happens then on and how he is releived of the murder charge are narrated in the later half of the film.

The role of an affectionate and sacrificing brother is not new to Sivaji Ganesan. He is effective and impressive as Dr Ramesh.

It is Sumitra, as Ramesh's loving sister Lakshmi, who attracts and impresses most. Sujatha has little scope. Jai Ganesh, as the responsible Dr Anand and understanding husband, is good. Others in the cast have lent good support.

The episode involving Thengai Srinivasan, Manorama, A. Karunanidhi and Surulirajan is out-of-place, out-of-date and fails to click.

Vietnam Veedu Sundaram has written the story and dialogue and G. OR. Nathan is the director of photography. M. S. Viswanathan has set to tune the songs composed by Kannadasan. The re-recording is also effectively done.

K. Vijayan has directed the film produced by Santhi Narayanaswami and T. Manohar.

Attukara Alamelu

DEVAR's latest offer ATTUKARA ALAMELU in colour is a mass entertainer.

Devar has a fancy for animals and always uses and gives an important role to an animal—dog, cow, elephant etc.—in his pictures. This time he has chosen a goat to play a leading rol in ATTUKARA ALAMELU.

The story part of the film is a familiar one to the Tamil filmgoers. Alamelu marries the rich landlord's son and later due to the machinations of the villainous maistry is seperated from her husband. How she puts up a courageous fight against odds and set things right forms the rest of the story.

Sripriya is Alamelu. As the care-free village belle and as the responsible house wife she is adequate. Sivakumar as her husband is impressive. Jai Ganesh as the mischievous maistry and Surulirajan as the valet make a good pair. Kavitha appears as Sivakumar's sister. Major Sundararajan as the driver, Asokan as the rich father and Thengai Srinivasan as the local medico have done well.

Thooyavan has written the dialogue for the story provided by Devar himself. V. Ramamurthy has captured the rustic beauty in enchanting colour. Sankar-Ganesh's music is average.

R. Thiagarajah has directed the film.

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Pennai Cholli Kutramillai

When the husband fails to keep the wife contended in all aspects of life, including sex, there is every likelihood of her trying to get elsewhere what she missed. And it is sheer foolishness to blame her when the fault lies with the husband. This, in short, is the theme of the 'A' Certificate film, PENNAI CHOLLI KUTRAMILLAI, produced by R. V. Films and directed by S. P. Muthuraman.

Director Muthuraman has cleverly handled the theme to present the picture without any obscenity.

Srikanth, as the lawyer-husband for whom profession is supreme and neglects the passionate young wife, has given a dignified performance. Sivakumar, as the young junior towards whom the senior's wife turns her lustful eyes and follows him wherever he goes, is impressive. Y. Vijaya, as the charming passionate wife, and "Pataphat" Jayalakshmi, as the junior's wife, have done well. Thengai Srinivasan and Manorama provide the lighter moments.

The story, diologue and songs are by Vali. Babu has photographed the film.

On the whole it is an average film.

Jayalakshmi and Vijayakumar in Ramya Cine Arts' NANDA EN NILA directed by A. Jagannathan. Puspa Thangaduri writes the story and dialogue for this picture produced by S. Sankaran.

Sri Krishna Leela

Sri Umayambigai Picture Circuits' Eastman colour mythology SRI KRISHNALEELA is an amateurish effort and too stagy.

It is hard to beleive that the mastereo of mythological and puranic films, the Late A. P. Nagarajan, conceived the screen play and directed it. It is the last of his pictures.

The movie begins with Kamsa's penance and getting a boon from Lord Siva and proceeds with Devaki's marriage with Vasudeva, the oracle announcing that the eighth child of Devaki will strike death on Kamsa, Sri Krishna's birth, Killing of the demon Sakatasura and other minions of Kamsa, Kalinga Nartanam, death of Kamsa, lifting of Goverthanagiri to provide shelter to the Yadhavas from the fury of Indira, the episode of Parijatha flower and the following Sathyabhama Garvabangam and ends with Kuchelopakyanam.

After a long gap we have an opportunity to witness Jayalalitha's crafty action as the jealous Sathyabhama. Srividya appears as Rukmini with cool and calm. Sivakumar is Sri Krishna. His gimmicks, when he is caught between his two consorts, does not impress.

Though the sequences concerning Kuchela episode have been ill-conceived and looks ridiculuous, it is Nagesh as Kuchela who impresses most on the whole. We see a glimpse of Nagesh of his glorious days.

The cast has a list of names which includedes among others Manohar, 'Major' Sundararajan, T. R. Mahalingam, V. S. Raghavan, Vijayakumari, S. Varalakshmi, Manorama, Kanthimathi and Sachu.

Photography, particularly the special effect shots, and rich colour save the picture to a great extent.

Music always plays an important part in mythological and puranic films. S. V. Venkataraman's handiwork does not carry the picture anywhere.

Chakravarthi

Chakravarthy (Jai Shankar) the physician, Ranjit (Srikanth) the DSP. and Prakash (Thengai Srinivasan) the lawyer are thick friends brought up by Jai's parents. Chakravarthy accidentally kills a criminal resolved to avenge the DSP, while rescuing Rosy, (Y. Vijaya), the DSP's wife. DSP comes to find out the motive but Jai will not give out the truth. The lawyer takes over here to make the story going. Geetha (Sarada) is introduced as Jai's wife. To add to the other ingredients of the Cocktail, the villain Marthandon (Senthamarai) has been cast with all the paraphernalia of a Tamil film's villain. Thengai-Manorama pair is under-utilised. Though the story is spread on a weak trellis, Krishnan—Panju could have given a better entertainer without the dragging boat chase. —R. N.

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